

[2nd March 1926]

I

NEW MEMBER.

M.R.Ry. C. VENKATARANGAM NAYUDU Garu made the prescribed affirmation of allegiance to the Crown, and then took his seat.

II

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No. 15 on the 4th December 1924—

1. Starred questions to be put at a meeting of the Council with their answers shall be printed and placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

The Secretary shall call out the name of each interpellator in the order in which the names are printed, specify the serial number of his question and make a sufficient pause to give him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place and putting a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.

2. If a member responsible for a starred question happens to be absent when it is called, it will be open either to him or to any other member to put supplemental questions thereon after the other starred questions for the day have been answered, provided question-time is not thereby exceeded.

3. Questions, not starred, will not be called in Council, but they will be printed with their answers and placed on the table of the House along with the list of starred questions. Oral supplementary questions will not be allowed in regard to unstarred questions.]

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Civil Justice.

Committee to consider the question of High Court establishment.

* 1475 Q.—Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are contemplating the appointment of a committee to consider the whole question of High Court establishment;

(b) if so, when the committee is likely to be constituted; and

(c) whether the proposed committee will go into the question of re-organization and retrenchment?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The matter is under the consideration of the Government.

Criminal Investigation Department.

Investigation into crimes in the Ceded districts.

* 1476 Q.—MR. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether any detailed investigation into grave crimes in the Ceded districts has been made;

(b) whether any result has been arrived at as regards their causes and the means to prevent the said crimes;

(c) what, if any, are the special measures proposed or recommended in the matter;

2nd March 1926]

(d) what steps, if any, the Government have taken or propose to take in this connexion; and

(e) whether any special staff is proposed to be appointed in the localities for the purpose of putting down crime after detailed investigation into the matter?

A.—(a) A special staff of one inspector and two sub-inspectors was sanctioned in 1923 to investigate the question of the manufacture and disposal of bombs, the increasing use of which in connexion with the commission of crime in the districts of Kurnool and Cuddapah was at that time a disturbing feature. In 1925 it was reported that this special staff had produced good results and that the use of bombs for the commission of crimes had diminished.

(b), (c) & (d) Crime has always been heavy in the Ceded districts and is due to the prevalence of faction, the existence of a number of criminal tribes and the backwardness of the area. Apart, however, from the bomb outrages, the crime presents no special features to call for particular investigation or treatment.

(e) No.

Irrigation.

Construction of a dam at Kilikudu.

* 1477 Q.—Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is finally settled to build a dam at Kilikudu (Trichinopoly district); and

(b) whether the villagers protest against the dam being built at the spot proposed?

A.—The construction of the dam was sanctioned in December 1924. It was then proposed to construct it for a length of some 4,000 feet above the place where the breach occurred in the floods and some 2,000 feet below. In consequence of a petition, the Chief Engineer has been asked to report further about the height of the dam and the possibility of dispensing with the section proposed for the length below the breach.

Police.

Circular to sub-inspectors of police regarding uniform.

* 1478 Q.—Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether he has sent a circular to the sub-inspectors of police to gather information in regard to their desire to have cross-belts as a part of their uniform; and

(b) if so, what action he proposes to take on the information received?

A.—(a) In pursuance of the undertaking in the answers to supplementary questions asked in connexion with question No. 669 on 30th October 1925, the Inspector-General of Police was consulted in the matter.